

1 **RESOLUTION 2021-010**

2 A RESOLUTION FOR DEMILITARIZATION OF THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY CAMPUS AND  
3 SURROUNDING COMMUNITY

4 Authors: Kathryn Holt.351, Chair, Arts and Culture; Kendra Dickinson.130, Delegate, Spanish & Portuguese  
5 Sponsor: Executive Committee  
6

7 WHEREAS the Council of Graduate Students (CGS) is the representative body of all graduate students enrolled at The  
8 Ohio State University as established by Article 2, Section 1 of the CGS Constitution; and  
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10 WHEREAS the Council or its appointed representative(s) have the power to sit as an advisory agent on behalf of graduate  
11 students on all matters brought before personnel, committees, or agencies of The Ohio State University involving the interest  
12 of graduate students as established in Article 3 Section 3 of the CGS Constitution; and  
13

14 WHEREAS Section 1033 of H.R. 3230 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1997 allowed for the  
15 U.S. Federal government to transfer excess military equipment to local law enforcement agencies; and  
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17 WHEREAS both the Ohio State University Police Department and the Columbus Police Department possess and use  
18 military-style equipment acquired from this program; (add citation) and  
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20 WHEREAS the material acquisition of military-style equipment can be accompanied by cultural, organizational, and  
21 operational shifts that are associated with militarization<sup>1</sup>; and  
22

23 WHEREAS the use of military-style equipment and the other dimensions of militarization are associated with increased  
24 violence towards citizens<sup>2</sup>; and  
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26 WHEREAS the violence associated with police militarization disproportionately harms Black citizens<sup>3,4</sup>; and  
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28 WHEREAS many Ohio State students and members of the Columbus community have called for and supported  
29 demilitarization in the wake of recent racial justice protests<sup>5</sup>; and  
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31 WHEREAS the university administration has stated there are no current plans to acquire equipment through the 1033  
32 program but has not committed to ending all further acquisitions.  
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34 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Council of Graduate Students calls on the university to divest from all military  
35 equipment acquired through the 1033 program; and  
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37 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the Council of Graduate Students asks Ohio State to refrain from all future 1033 acquisitions  
38 or any similar acquisition of military equipment; and  
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<sup>1</sup> Kraska (2007) defines the four dimensions of militarization: Material: includes the acquisition of martial weaponry, equipment, and advanced technology; Cultural: includes the use of military language, style (appearance), beliefs, and values; Organizational: includes the use of military-like structural hierarchies, including ‘command and control’ centers, or elite squads of officers patterned after military special operations; Operational: includes patterns of activity modeled after the military such as in the areas of intelligence, supervision, handling high-risk situations, or warmaking/restoration.

<sup>2</sup> Delehanty, C., Mewhirter, J., Welch, R., & Wilks, J. (2017). Militarization and police violence: The case of the 1033 program. *Research & Politics*, 4(2), 2053168017712885.

<sup>3</sup> Buehler, James W. (2017). Racial/Ethnic Disparities in the Use of Lethal Force by US Police, 2010–2014. *American Journal of Public Health*, 107(2), 295-297.

<sup>4</sup> Gamal, F. (2016). The racial politics of protection: critical race examination of police militarization. *California Law Review*, 104(4), 979-1008.

<sup>5</sup> <https://www.cleveland.com/news/2020/06/ohio-state-student-governments-ask-for-university-to-cut-ties-to-columbus-police-department.html>; <https://www.wcbe.org/post/columbus-council-holds-hearing-demilitarizing-police>; <https://www.dispatch.com/news/20200703/written-statements-to-city-council-largely-support-police-demilitarization>

40 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the Council of Graduate Students recommends the Public Safety Advisory Committee  
41 evaluate and publicly report on OSUPD with regard to the 4 key dimensions of militarization: material, cultural,  
42 organizational, and operational; and

43  
44 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the Council of Graduate Students desires the Public Safety Advisory Committee to create  
45 actionable recommendations for improvement based on the above report that will be open for comment and participation  
46 from the student body; and

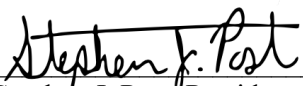
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48 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the Council of Graduate Students calls on the university to acknowledge and publicly  
49 condemn the militarization of the Columbus Police Department and the risks that this pose to Black students; and

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51 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the Council of Graduate Students urges the Ohio State Office of Government Affairs to  
52 advocate for police demilitarization at the city, state, and national levels; and

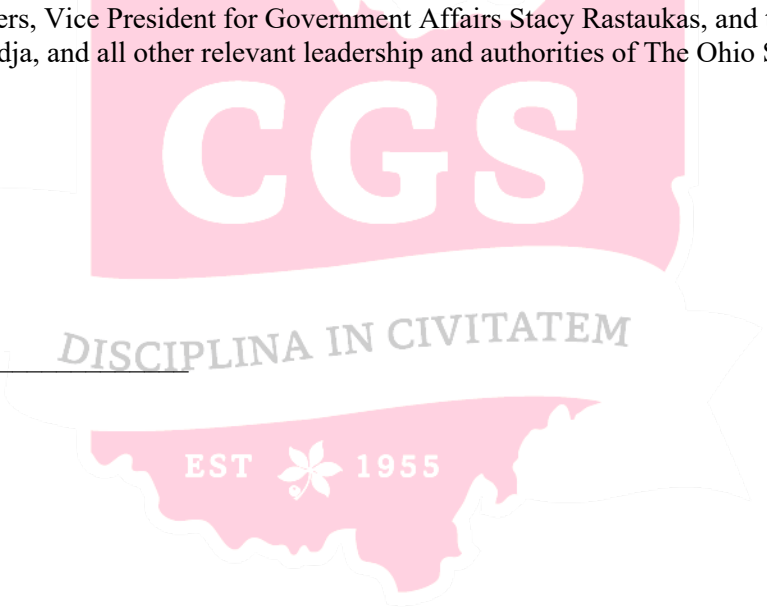
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54 BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the Council of Graduate Students directs its President and Vice President to distribute  
55 this resolution to The Ohio State University President Kristina M. Johnson, Executive Vice President and Provost Bruce  
56 McPheron, Vice Provost for Graduate Studies and Dean of the Graduate School Alicia Bertone, Vice President for  
57 Student Life Melissa Shivers, Vice President for Government Affairs Stacy Rastaukas, and the Chair of the Council on  
58 Student Affairs Jordan Vadja, and all other relevant leadership and authorities of The Ohio State University and its  
59 partners.

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62 Approved:  Yes/No

63  
64 Date: \_\_11/6/20\_\_

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67 Stephen J. Post, President

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Council of Graduate Students  
at The Ohio State University